

Wyoming Department of Health, Office of Healthcare Licensing and Surveys ARRA Impact

Ambulatory Surgical Centers Healthcare-Associated Infection Control Program

Objectives: This funding is designed to enhance regulatory oversight by state survey agencies of Medicare participating Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASCs) to encourage these facilities to implement strategies to reduce healthcare-associated infections. For more information, visit: <http://www.hhs.gov/ophs/initiatives/hai/infection.html>

Reasons: ASCs in the United States have been the fastest growing provider type participating in Medicare, increasing in number by more than 38% between 2002 and 2007. A 2008 Hepatitis C outbreak in Nevada was traced to poor infection control practices at various ASCs (potentially affecting more than 50,000 people). Follow-up surveys throughout Nevada found serious deficiencies at 64% of the ASCs, primarily with infection control practices.

Goals:

- (a) Improving survey agency inspection capability and frequency for onsite surveys of ASCs nationwide,
- (b) Using a new infection control survey tool developed by the CDC and CMS,
- (c) Improving the survey process through the use of a CMS tracer methodology, and
- (d) Using multi-person teams for ASCs over a certain size or complexity.

Uses of Funds: States may use the funds to defray the cost of ASC surveys, and necessary supports for those surveys.

Overview of Action Plan:

- Train current OHLS health surveyors on the new survey tool and protocols.
- Increase significantly the inspection of the number of ASCs in this state. If approved for FFY 2009, we will survey 3 ASCs using the new protocol. If approved for FFY 2010 we will survey 6 ASCs prior to October 1, 2010.
- Where inspections identify Condition-level (serious) deficiencies, ensure that the ASC remedies the findings in a timely manner.

Estimated Range of Available Funding for Wyoming:

- FY 2009 – \$2,864.64 – \$5,968.00 (Deadline for application to CMS is June 22, 2009. Allocations will be made to states by the end of June for implementation in the last quarter of FY 2009.)
- FY 2010 - \$21,484.80 - \$60,157.44 (Deadline for application to CMS is August 1, 2009 and this will be provided as part of the grant.)
- No state match is required for the ASC Stimulus Fund project.